

U.S. Coast Guard History Program

47- Foot Motor Lifeboat

Number: Approx. 100
Completed: 1991
Remarks:

Cost: N/A

Hull

Displacement (lbs): 40,000
Length: 47' (oa)
Beam: 14' max
Draft: 4' max

Machinery

Main Engines: N/A
BHP: N/A
Propellers: N/A

Performance

Max Sustained: 23 knots (1989)

Logistics

Fuel Oil (95%): N/A
Complement: 4 plus 5 survivors

Electronics

Radar: N/A

Design

The 47-foot MLB was designed to replace the aging 44-foot MLB as the primary inshore and surf and bar rescue craft under the worst environmental conditions. The craft is self-righting, designed to be operated in 20-foot seas and 20-foot surf.

The hull and the superstructure of the craft are made of aluminum. The hull form is a single chine, deep-V planning hull. The size was determined by existing station moorings, haulout facilities, and manning levels. The primary improvements over the 44-footer are increased speed, greater crew protection, and improved sea-keeping.

The production process called for the construction of a proto-type, five pre-production boats, and approximately 100 production models.

Images



A pair of US Navy Blue Angels pass over USCG Station Golden Gate's 47-foot Motor Lifeboat (MLB 47267) during Fleet Week activities on San Francisco Bay, 7 October 2006.



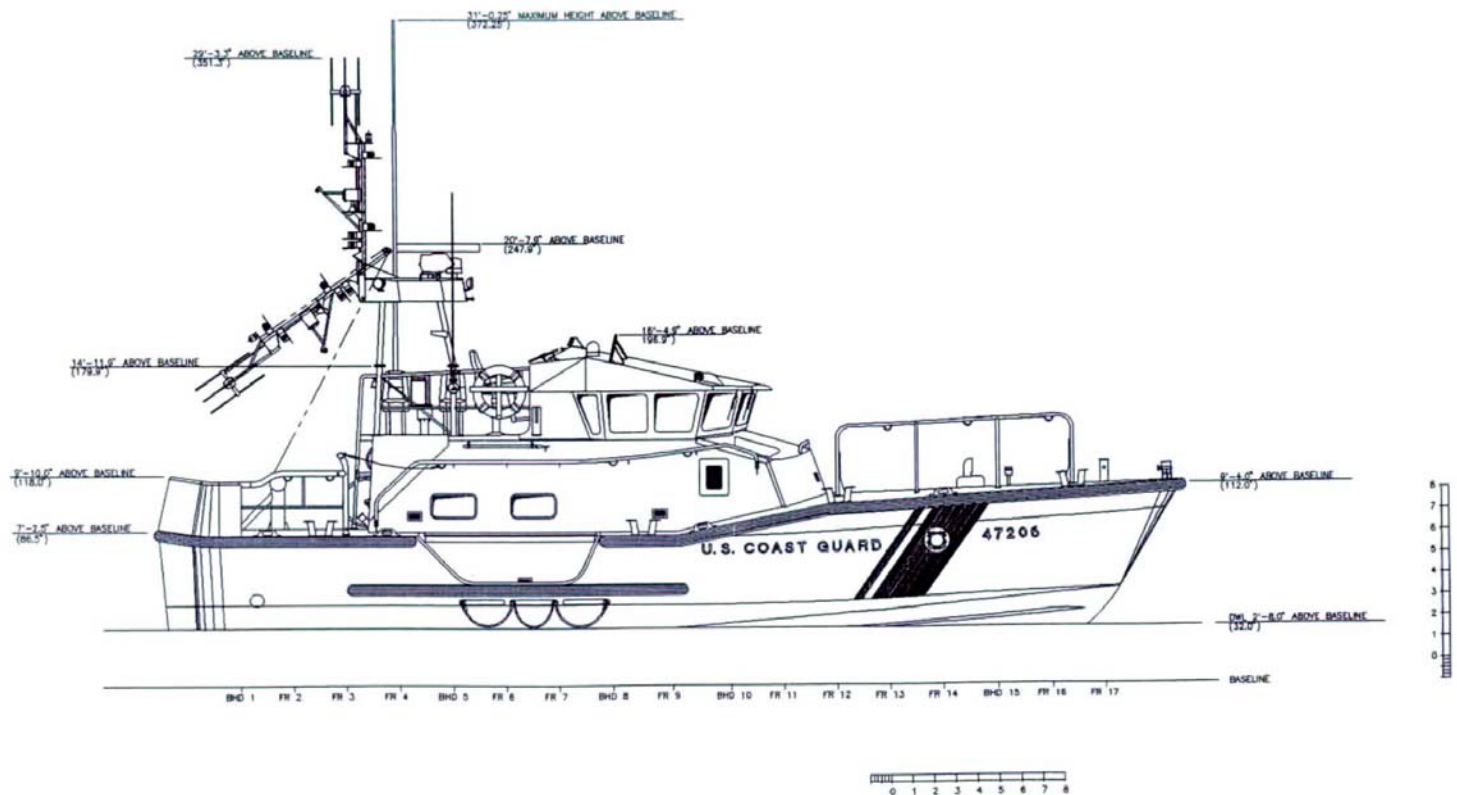
A boat crew from Coast Guard Station Barnegat Light conducts surf training during inclement weather March 29, 2010.



A heavy-weather coxswain and boat crew from Station Monterey operate a 47-foot motor lifeboat-13 January 2010.



A 47-foot boat crew from Coast Guard Station Rockland cooperates with an MH-60 Jayhawk helicopter crew from Coast Guard Air Station Cape Cod to evacuate an injured sailboat crewman- 8 November



Sources

Boat Files, U.S. Coast Guard Historian's Office.

Scheina, Robert L. *U.S. Coast Guard Cutters and Craft, 1946-1990*. Annapolis, MD: Naval Institute Press, 1990.

Wilkinson, William D., and Timothy R. Dring. *American Coastal Rescue Craft: A Design History of Coastal Rescue Craft Used by the United States Life-Saving Service and the United States Coast Guard*. Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2009.